Recommendations of the Statham Committee.

42.* **MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR** (*Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state what recommendations of the Statham Committee have been accepted by them and given effect to?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The following recommendations have been accepted by Government:—

1. Creation of the post of Deputy Director of Public Instruction (Chapter I, No. 13).
2. Strengthening of the office staff of the Director of Public Instruction (Chapter I No. 15).
3. Reconstitution of the School Leaving Certificate Board with enlarged functions (Chapter V, No. 33, para 5).
4. Reconstitution of the Text-Book Committee (Chapter V, No. 33).

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether the recommendations so far accepted by Government are minor recommendations made by the Committee?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. Some of them are treated as minor by Government.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Only *some*?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): In the case of some of these recommendations, Government could not wait any longer to carry them out, *e. g.*, the constitution of the Text-Book Committee and the School Leaving Certificate Board. The current school year is coming to a close and text-books have to be prescribed for the next year. The School Final Examination is fast approaching and the Examination Board has to be appointed. To deal with the increased correspondence in his office, the Director of Public Instruction wanted the staff to be strengthened. He also urged the necessity of appointing the Deputy Director immediately. The above recommendations were therefore sanctioned by Government.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether these recommendations were considered minor by Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That is a matter of opinion. Some may consider them as major, while others may regard them as minor.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I point out to the member that an undertaking was given on the floor of this House by the Chief Secretary to Government that only minor recommendations will be accepted by Government and that this House will be given an opportunity of discussing the major recommendations.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I think that the promise given was that an opportunity will be given to the members to discuss the recommendations of the Committee and that Government will not, as far as possible, give effect to the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

major recommendations before they have been discussed by the Legislature. That was the promise given by the Chief Secretary and I think Government have kept the promise.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether the words "as far as possible" were used?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The proceedings are not with me. I do not remember the exact words used. However, Government have accepted some recommendations which they thought should be given effect to immediately.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether the recommendations that were given effect to by the Government were minor?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Government member has already given an answer as to what is thought major and what is minor.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether Government gave an undertaking on the floor of this House that only minor recommendations will be carried out by Government and an opportunity will be given for the members of this House to discuss the major recommendations of the Committee?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I have answered that question as far as I could. The proceedings of the last Council are not now with me.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know when the Text-Book Committee was formed last year?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Last year there was a lot of complaint about the composition of the Text-Book Committee. The Government wanted to appoint a committee for this year and they could not wait till the question was discussed in this House.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): As a result of the recommendation of this House—

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Sir, I have not finished my questions.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: A considerable time has elapsed since you put your last question.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Mr. Sambasiva Aiyar began his question when I was still on my legs.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You say it was before you sat down that Mr. Sambasiva Aiyar began his question. In that case I allow you to continue your questions.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): My question is who was responsible for the selection of text-books last year?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That question was answered in this House on a previous occasion.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That question may still be asked.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): It was said on that occasion that the selection was made by the Director on the advice of the Inspectors of Schools.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether any Committee was informally formed for the selection of text-books?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think that there was any committee like that.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): May I know whether, as a result of the discussion and decision of this House on the recommendations of the Committee, Government would reconsider their decision on any of those points? I want to know whether the orders of Government are final or temporary.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): In regard to the Text Book Committee, I may say, Sir, that the Committee has been constituted only provisionally for one year though the Report recommends that the Committee, when formed, must last for three years. This provisional arrangement was necessary because text-books for the next year have to be selected and approved very soon.

As regards the constitution of the School Leaving Examination Board—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Question time is over.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Are we to continue this question tomorrow?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is a point covered by the rules.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I have pleasure to announce that, under Rule 3 (2) of the Legislative Rules, the President has nominated Mr. P. Chidambaram Pillai and Mr. Antony George to form the panel of chairmen for this session.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.—(*contd.*)

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 2,000 for the payment of lodging allowance to Mr. A. Sivaramasubrahmanya Aiyar, M. A., Assistant Professor of English, on leave, undergoing higher studies in England.

I may briefly explain, Sir, the need for this grant. It is, in effect, to give study leave allowances to this Assistant Professor who has proceeded to the London University to obtain a higher degree in English. We have, in the departmental colleges in Travancore, very few Professors with higher qualifications in English. The members will realise that, till comparatively recently, the English Professors in our colleges were Europeans recruited from England or abroad. It was thought

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly